

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Hunt

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 11/16/2001

Title: Automated Unmanned Rental System
and Method

Attorney Docket No.: 04478-00002

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Kery A. Fries

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PETITIONS OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Filing Date
Washington, D.C. 20231CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8
I hereby certify that this is being facsimile transmitted to the United States
Patent and Trademark office at (703) 746-3240

on: December 6, 2001

By: Jean A. Burns
Name: Jean A. Burns

PETITION TO ACCORD A FILING DATE TO PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

*Receipt date
Granted is 11/16/01
E. Jones from OPLA.*

As attorney for applicants in the above captioned matter, and in response to an invitation from Examiner Fries by telephone, I am requesting that the patent application in question be accorded a filing date of November 16, 2001. Due to the disruption of Express Mail delivery to the Washington, D.C. area, the Express Mail envelope containing the patent application filing papers was returned by the Denver USPS, having never been sent to Washington, D.C. Facts surrounding the events are supplied in the statement of Jean A. Burns, Intellectual Property Assistant for Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP (attached), in support of this petition to accord a filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

By: Stanley J. Gradisar
Stanley J. Gradisar, Esq.Registration No. 42,598
1801 California St., Suite 4100
Denver, CO 80202-2641
(303) 298-5786Date: December 6, 2001

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STATEMENT OF JEAN A. BURNS


PETITIONS OFFICE

I, Jean A. Burns, hereby state that on November 16, 2001 I signed the Utility Patent Application Transmittal, regarding delivery by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service, for the above referenced patent application, and placed the patent application filing papers in an Express Mail envelope, having Tracking No. ET46 2431 205US, addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231. This envelope was placed in the bin for pick by the USPS outside our offices at 1801 California Street, Suite 4100, Denver, CO 80202, which is our standard business practice. The following Monday, November 19, 2001, the entire Express Mail envelope (unopened) was returned to our office on 1801 California Street, Suite 4100, by the USPS.

That same day, I sent by overnight delivery the entire patent application packet returned by the USPS to Jennison & Shultz, P.C., 2001 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1102, Arlington, VA 22202 with instructions for hand delivery to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A representative from Jennison & Shultz, P.C., did hand deliver the patent application packet to the USPTO on November 20, 2001.

Enclosed please find a copy of the tracking report for the above identified Express Mail envelope. The tracking report shows that the USPS attempted to return the Express Mail envelope to 1801 California Street, Suite 4100 on Saturday, November 17, 2001. Our offices are closed on Saturday, so the patent application packet was not delivered to our office until Monday, November 19, 2001.

Signed this 6th day of December, 2001.


Jean A. Burns

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GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

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December 6, 2001

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FROM: Jean A. Burns Room: DE-4261 Direct Dial: (303) 298-5780

Our File Number: C 04478-00002

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